



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **KEVIN SHELLEY**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Proposed Initiative Enters Circulation

Reapportionment. Initiative Constitutional Amendment

SAN FRANCISCO, CA --- Secretary of State Kevin Shelley announced today the proponent of a new initiative received clearance to begin collecting petition signatures.

The Attorney General's official title and summary is as follows:

REAPPORTIONMENT. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT. Amends constitutional provisions governing reapportionment of Congressional, Senate, Assembly, and Board of Equalization districts. Establishes criteria for drawing new election district boundaries, beginning with 2006 election. Provides for appointment of 3-member panel of retired judges to prepare proposed reapportionment plans; specifies panel selection criteria. Requires panel to consider proposals submitted by electors and/or legislators, hold public hearings, and submit proposed reapportionment plan to Legislature. Provides process for redistricting plans to be approved by Legislature, Governor, and/or voters. Authorizes any elector to sue in California Supreme Court challenging whether reapportionment plan conforms with requirements. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: This measure would have the following major fiscal impact: One-time state reapportionment costs, potentially totaling several million dollars, for 2006 reapportionment plan.

The proponent, Edward J. "Ted" Costa, must collect 598,105 signatures of registered voters, 8 percent of the total votes cast for governor in the 2002 gubernatorial election, for his measure. The 150-day deadline to circulate petitions is June 1, 2004. The initiative proponent can be reached at 916-482-6175.

For a copy of the complete text, title & summary, and circulation calendar, please contact the Secretary of State's Press Office at 916-653-6575.

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